

PRESS RELEASE

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**DECLARATION BY THE PRESIDENCY ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
CONCERNING THE CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE)**

The European Union is seriously concerned at the situation in the Congo (Brazzaville). It nevertheless considers the process being set in hand to find a solution to the crisis to be a very hopeful sign. A draft cease-fire agreement drawn up by the international mediation committee, headed by President Bongo, after consulting the Congolese parties, was submitted to those parties yesterday by Mr Mohammed Sahnoun, the special representative of the UN and OAU Secretaries-General. The European Union appeals to the parties to show their sense of responsibility by taking this opportunity to embark firmly and very swiftly upon a political settlement of the Congolese crisis, enabling the process leading up to the presidential election to be successfully completed.
